

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application*

**Listing of Claims:**

*Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)*

11. (Original) A magnetic recording medium, comprising:  
a non-magnetic substrate including at least one major surface having a contact start/stop (CSS) or landing zone and a data zone, said substrate surface in said CSS or landing zone comprising an embossed pattern of recesses.

12. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 11, wherein:  
said substrate is annular disk-shaped, said CSS or landing zone comprises an annularly-shaped zone adjacent an inner or outer diameter of said disk, and said data zone comprises an annularly-shaped zone radially adjacent said CSS or landing zone.

13. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 11, wherein:  
said pattern of recesses comprises a plurality of rectangularly-shaped recesses, wherein each of the dimensions of the rectangles of said pattern is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 10  $\mu\text{m}$  and the depth of each of the recesses is in the range of from about 10 to about 200  $\text{\AA}$ .

14. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 11, wherein:  
said pattern of recesses comprises a plurality of sinusoidally-shaped recesses, wherein the peak-to-peak spacings of adjacent recesses is in the range of from about 0.1 to about 10  $\mu\text{m}$  and the depth of each of the recesses is in the range of from 10 to about 200  $\text{\AA}$ .

15. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 11, wherein:

said substrate is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of Al, Al/NiP, Al-based alloys, other metals, other metal alloys, polymers, and polymer-based materials, or a high modulus, hard-surfaced substrate selected from the group consisting of glass, ceramics, and glass-ceramics.

16 (Currently Amended) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 15 ~~claim 16~~, wherein:

said substrate comprises glass, ceramics, and glass-ceramics and further includes a glass or glass-like layer on at least said substrate surface in said CSS or landing zone, said glass or glass-like layer being derived from a sol-gel layer and including a surface with said pattern of recesses formed therein.

17. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 11, wherein:

said substrate surface in said data zone comprises an embossed servo pattern.

18. (Original) The magnetic recording medium as in claim 11, comprising:

a stack of thin film layers formed over at least said substrate surface in said data zone, said stack of layers including at least one ferromagnetic recording layer.

19. (Original) A stamper for embossing at least one pattern of recesses in a surface of a substrate for a magnetic recording medium, said substrate surface including spaced-apart landing and data zones, said stamper comprising:

- (a) a main body including a surface; and
- (b) means for embossing a pattern of recesses in said landing zone of said substrate

surface.

20. (Original) The stamper as in claim 19, further comprising:

(c) means for simultaneously embossing a servo pattern in said data zone of said substrate surface.